

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Michael KOMOWSKI  
Title: DRUM-TYPE VALVE  
Appl. No.: 10/578,564  
International Filing Date: 11/5/2004  
371(c) Date: 08/15/06  
Examiner: Samantha A. Miller  
Art Unit: 3749  
Confirmation Number: 9060

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to

antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

### **TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114.

### **RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Documents A2-A7 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding German application. A copy of the German Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner.

Copies of DE Patent Nos. 199 15 966 and 100 53 814 listed on the German Search Report are not being provided since they were previously submitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office in the above-identified application on May 5, 2006.

Documents A1 and A5 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Unless otherwise indicated, no English translation is readily available (not considering machine-generated translations that may be freely available online, to both the Applicants and the PTO) for each of the non-English language documents. However, a commercially available English language abstract is provided herewith, where indicated on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. Inasmuch as Applicants have endeavored to provide at least one item that complies with the requirement for a “concise explanation of relevance” for each of the non-English language documents, each of these documents has been submitted in compliance with the PTO requirements and should be considered by the Examiner (37 CFR §1.97, §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicant respectfully requests that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Although Applicants believe that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 28, 2009

By  \_\_\_\_\_

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